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International Convention on
the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Fifty-fifth session
Geneva, 2-27 August 1999

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifty-fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 2 to 27 August 1999. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 2 August.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the tentative timetable for consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties, for consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure, and for consideration of States parties pursuant to early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

4. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

6. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights.

7. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

8. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

9. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

10. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

2. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the fifty-fifth session. It will also undertake a general debate on issues of interest to the Committee.

3. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts; or it may decide to initiate urgent action procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under this item.

Pursuant to decisions taken at its fifty-fourth session, the Committee has scheduled, at its fifty-fifth session, consideration of the situation in the following States parties: Australia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Committee may, at its discretion, schedule the consideration of other States parties at short notice.

In pursuance of established practice, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which they are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of States parties under this item is set forth in the timetable below.

4. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its fifty-fifth session, the Committee will consider periodic reports received from the following States parties: Colombia, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Latvia, Mauritania, Romania, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

In addition, the Committee will consider initial reports from Azerbaijan and the Kyrgyzstan.

Pursuant to a decision taken at its fifty-fourth session, the Committee has scheduled, at its fifty-fifth session, a review of the implementation of

the Convention in the following State parties that have previously submitted reports but from which periodic reports are seriously overdue: Central African Republic, Jamaica, Maldives, Mozambique and Senegal.

In addition, the Committee has scheduled a review of the implementation in one State party, Antigua and Barbuda, whose initial report is seriously overdue.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of reports submitted and review of the implementation of the Convention in the State parties whose reports are excessively overdue is set forth in the timetable below.

5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its fifty-fifth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/367). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

6. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session. The Committee will have before it the report and relevant summary records of the Third Committee, and relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

The Committee will have before it the following documents:

(i) Note of the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the report of the ninth meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies (A/53/125); Note of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the tenth meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies (A/53/432); and the Report of the

Secretary-General on the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (A/53/469);

(ii) Relevant summary records;

(iii) Relevant General Assembly resolutions.

7. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

8. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/368) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers relating to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

9. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, and subsequently the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

The Committee discussed the World Conference at its 1302nd and 1303rd meetings (fifty-third session) in August 1998, and continued its discussion of the World Conference at its 1330th meeting (fifty-fourth session) in March 1999.

10. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

In accordance with article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the Committee is to submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly. The 1999 report to the fifty-fourth session of the Assembly is to cover the activities of the Committee at its fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions.

Tentative timetable for consideration of reports, comments and further information submitted by States parties, for consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure, and for consideration of States parties pursuant to early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session.

Monday, 2 August 1999 (1333rd and 1334th meetings)

Haiti 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Rechetov)	Tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/336/Add.1)

Tuesday, 3 August 1999 (1335th and 1336th meetings)

Haiti	(continued)
Romania 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Yutzis)	Twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports, due in 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/363/Add.1)

Wednesday, 4 August 1999 (1337th and 1338th meetings)

Romania	(continued)
Antigua and Barbuda 2/ (Country Rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	
Iran (Islamic Republic of) 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	Thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports, due in 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/338/Add.8)

Thursday, 5 August 1999 (1339th and 1340th meetings)

Iran (Islamic Republic of)	(continued)
Maldives 2/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Third and fourth periodic reports, due in 1989 and 1991, submitted in one document, (CERD/C/203/Add.1), considered at the 944th and 950th meetings in 1992
Mauritania 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports, due in 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/330/Add.1)

Friday, 6 August 1999 (1341st and 1342nd meetings)

Mauritania	(continued)
General debate	

Monday, 9 August 1999 (1343rd and 1344th meetings)

General debate	
Iraq 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Diaconu)	Fourteenth periodic report, due in 1997 (CERD/C/320/Add.3)

Tuesday, 10 August 1999 (1345th and 1346th meetings)

Iraq	(continued)
Central African Republic 2/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Rechetov)	Seventh periodic report, due in 1984 (CERD/C/117/Add.5), considered at the 751st and 752nd meetings in 1986
Chile 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodriguez)	Eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/337/Add.2)

Wednesday, 11 August 1999 (1347th and 1348th meetings)

Chile	(continued)
Jamaica 2/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports, due in 1980, 1982 and 1984, submitted in one document (CERD/C/117/Add.4), considered at the 741st and 742nd meetings in 1985
Latvia 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Diaconu)	Initial, second and third periodic reports, due in 1993, 1995 and 1997, submitted in one document (CERD/C/309/Add.1)

Thursday, 12 August 1999 (1349th and 1350th meetings)

Latvia	(continued)
Uruguay 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mrs. Zou)	Twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/338/Add.7)

Friday, 13 August 1999 (1351st and 1352nd meetings)

Uruguay	(continued)
Mozambique 2/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Initial report, due in 1984 (CERD/C/111/Add.1), considered at the 681st meeting in 1984
Democratic Republic of the Congo 3/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodriguez)	Tenth periodic report (CERD/C/278/Add.1), considered at the 1171st to 1173rd meetings in 1996, and further considered at the 1240th meeting in 1997, its 1271st meeting in 1998, and its 1332nd meeting in 1999

Monday, 16 August 1999 (1353rd and 1354th meetings)

Australia 3/ (Country Rapporteur: Ms. McDougall)	Special report (CERD/C/347), considered at the 1323rd and 1324th meeting in 1999
Kyrgyzstan 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodriguez)	Initial report, due in 1998 (CERD/C/326/Add.1)

Tuesday, 17 August 1999 (1355th and 1356th meetings)

Kyrgyzstan	(continued)
Senegal 2/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Nobel)	Ninth and tenth periodic reports, due in 1989 and 1991, submitted in one document (CERD/C/209/Add.7), considered at the 1046th and 1047th meetings in 1994
Colombia 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Ms. McDougall)	Eighth and ninth periodic reports, due in 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/332/Add.1)

Wednesday, 18 August 1999 (1357th and 1358th meetings)

Colombia	(continued)
Azerbaijan (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Initial and second periodic reports, due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/350/Add.1)

Thursday, 19 August 1999 (1359th and 1360th meetings)

Azerbaijan	(continued)
Ghana 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports, due 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/338/Add.5)

Friday, 20 August 1999 (1361st and 1362nd meetings)

Ghana Zimbabwe 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Nobel)	Second, third and fourth periodic reports, due in 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/329/Add.1)

Monday, 23 August 1999 (1363rd and 1364th meetings)

Zimbabwe	(continued)
Dominican Republic 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Ferrero Costa)	Fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth periodic reports, due in 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/331/Add.1)

Tuesday, 24 August 1999 (1365th and 1366th meetings)

Dominican Republic	(continued)
Guinea 1/ (Country Rapporteur: Mr. Yutzis)	Second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports, due in 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/334/Add.1)

Wednesday, 25 August 1999 (1367th and 1368th meetings)

Guinea	(continued)

Notes

1/ Periodic report.

2/ Review procedure (for States parties whose reports are seriously overdue).

3/ Early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

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